United Nations A/C.4/57/SR.24

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Official Records

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Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 24th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 28 May 2003, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Maitland ..... (South Africa)

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Agenda item 78: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*)

Completion of the Committee's work

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03-37698 (E)
0337698

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Agenda item 78: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects *(continued)* (A/57/767, A/C.4/57/L.21)

1. **The Chairperson** recalled that, by its resolution 56/225 B, the General Assembly had decided that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, and should review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in that field. Those proposals were contained in paragraphs 39 to 206 of the Special Committee's report (A/57/767).

2. **Mr. Abu Zeid** (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, introduced the report of the Special Committee, which provided a narrative account of its general debate and presented its proposals, recommendations and conclusions. The report emphasized the guiding principles that remained essential for peacekeeping operations: strict observation of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter and full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, as well as non-intervention in matters which were essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State.

3. He drew attention to the recommendations contained in the report beginning with paragraph 39, and said that the Special Committee had particularly welcomed the view expressed in the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Special Committee's recommendations (A/57/711) that six issues deserved the particular attention of the Secretariat and Member States in 2003: integrating lessons learned and best practices into strengthened operational planning and coordination, developing and implementing comprehensive strategies for recurrent challenges faced by complex peacekeeping operations, enhancing rapid and effective deployment capability for United Nations peacekeeping operations, strengthening the effectiveness of training, minimizing disciplinary problems and strengthening regional peacekeeping capacities (particularly in Africa). Lastly, the Special Committee supported the Secretary-General's plans for the Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit to play a more active role in the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

Draft resolution A/C.4/57/L.21

4. **Mr. Zhang** (Deputy Secretary of the Committee), speaking on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, recalled that through paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would endorse the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 39 to 206 of its report (A/57/767). In that connection, he wished to point out that some of the actions referred to in the report had potential programme budget implications in the context of peacekeeping: enhancing the capacity of the United Nations for peacekeeping (paragraph 68), training (paragraphs 108 and 109), gender and peacekeeping (paragraph 117), safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel (paragraph 158), financial issues (paragraphs 177 and 179), conduct and disciplinary issues (paragraph 181) and language skills (paragraph 190). The financial requirements of the actions listed would be met from the resources allocated to individual peacekeeping missions and the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 or in the context of budgets for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

5. **The Chairperson** said that the sponsors of the draft resolution had requested that it should be adopted without a vote.

6. *Draft resolution A/C.4/57/L.21 was adopted.*

Completion of the Committee's work

7. **The Chairperson** declared that the Special Political and Decolonization Committee had completed its work for the fifty-seventh session.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.

United Nations A/C.4/57/SR.25

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session

Official Records

Distr.: General
16 June 2003

Original: English

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Summary record of the 25th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 6 June 2003, at 11.10 a.m.

Chairman: Ms. Ferrari (Vice-Chairperson) ..... (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Election of the Chairman for the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly

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03-38735 (E)
0338735

In the absence of Mr. Maitlord (South Africa), Ms. Ferrari (Italy), Vice-Chairperson, took the chair.

The meeting was called to order at 11.10 a.m.

Election of the Chairman for the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly

1. **The Chairperson** recalled that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/509 of 8 July 2002, a number of changes had been made to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and that rule 99 now called for all the Main Committees to elect a Chairman at least three months before the opening of the session.

2. At its 18th meeting on 19 November 2001, the Committee had decided that in future it would elect its Bureau on a rotational basis, using the English alphabetical order of the regional groups. In accordance with that procedure, the next Chairman should be from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

3. **Mr. Loedel** (Uruguay) had been nominated for election to the office of Chairman for the fifty-eighth session. In the absence of further nominations and in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure, she would take it that the Committee wished to elect Mr. Loedel (Uruguay) Chairman.

4. **Mr. Loedel** (Uruguay) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.